COMING TELEGRAM *Department of State* POL 23-9 UVOLTA
XR LAB 6-1 UVolta

Ouagadougou 213

CONFIDENTIAL

00 RUCJHK RUEHC RUEHCR RUFHPA RUQSDA
DE RUEHCR 008GP 0031230
ZNY CCCCC
O R 031212Z
FM AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 213
INFO RUFHPA/AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN 116
RUEHCR/AMEMBASSY ACCRA 53
RUQSDA/AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA 23
RUFHPA/AMEMBASSY COTONOU 75
RUFHPA/AMEMBASSY NIAMEY 77
RUFHPA/AMEMBASSY LOME 61
RUFHPA/AMEMBASSY PARIS 107
RUCJHK/CINCSTRIKE UNN
STATE GRNC
BT

00532
1966 JAN 3 AM 8 10

C O N F I D E N T I A L JANUARY 3.

SUBJ: GENERAL STRIKE

DEPT PASS AMB ESTES

CROWDS ESTIMATED FOUR-SIX THOUSAND STILL CIRCULATING AROUND TOWN SHOUTING "DEATH TO YAMEOGO" AND "ARMY TO POWER". SEVERAL THOUSAND ASSEMBLED BEHIND PRESIDENTIAL PALACE 10:00 TO 11:00. ARMY STOOD FAST AND CROWD AGAIN DISPERSED AFTER FEW TEAR GAS GRENADES AND RIFLE BUTTS USED. AGITATORS LED GROUPS CLOSE TO LINES SOLDIERS AND CALLED ON THEM TURN AGAINST GOVT. AGITATORS AND CROWD NOT YET FULLY AROUSED AND HAVE NOT SERIOUSLY BAITED SOLDIERS

PAGE TWO RUEHCR 008GP C O N F I D E N T I A L
WHOM THEY WISH WIN OVER. NO REPEAT NO INDICATION NOW, HOWEVER, TROOPS AROUND PALACE WAVERING. NO ANTI-WHITE FEELING EXHIBITED.

MANY PROMINENT CIVIL SERVICE AMONG CROWD INCLUDING GEORGES SANOGOH, RECENTLY REMOVED DIRECTOR OF PLAN MINISTRY OF NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT, AND MADAME KI-ZERBO, DIRECTOR GIRLS NORMAL SCHOOL. A FORMER ASPAU GRANTEE AND SEVERAL MEMBERS FONOFF. INCLUDING [redacted] AMONG MARCHERS. [redacted] STATED ACTION COMMITTEE HAD BEEN CREATED BY UNIONISTS AND HAD ASKED SEE PRESIDENT JAN 2 BUT HAD BEEN REFUSED. PURPOSE DEMONSTRATION WAS TO FORCE CANCELLAHION SALARY CUT (EMBTEL 209) AND IF NECESSARY CHANGE GOVT.

SITUATION VERY FLUID AND APPEARS AT MOMENT POSE REAL THREAT

CONFIDENTIAL

-2- 213, JANUARY 3 FROM OUAGADOUGOU
YAMEOGO. MINIMIZATION VIOLENCE DUE FORTUNATE WISH UNIONISTS AND CIVIL SERVICE BRING ARMY OVER THEIR SIDE AND RESTRAINT SHOWN SO FAR BY TROOPS. FIVE DEMONSTRATORS SEEN WOUNDED BY GAS GRENADES BUT NO SERIOUS CASES OR DEATHS KNOWN.

CROWD HAS RETURNED TO CENTER OF TOWN FROM WHICH TROOPS WITHDRAWN, HAVE PARTIALLY SACKED NATIONAL ASSEMBLY AND LAST SEEN ATTACKING

PAGE THREE RUEHCR 0086P C O N F I D E N T I AL
UDV/RDA PARTY HEADQUARTERS. USIS CLOSE BY BUT NOT THREATENED. GROUP DEMONSTRATORS ASKED PICTURES YAMEOGO IN NATIONAL DAY PARADE BE REMOVED FROM WINDOW, WHICH WAS DONE.

GP-3. ROBERTS

NOTE: ADVANCE COPY S/S-O 1/3/66, 8:53 a.m.
PASSED WHITE HOUSE 1/3/66, 9:10 a.m.